## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 04647 211626Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /061 W

-----211906Z 025799 /53

R 211620Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY LONDON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1764 INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG AMEMBASSY TOKYO USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UK, PINT, OPFOR

SUBJECT: THATCHER CHINA TRIP IN THE BALANCE

REF: LONDON 4578

- 1. CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADER MARGARET THATCHER'S LONG-PLANNED TRIP TO CHINA HAS NOW BEEN THREATENED BY VOTE IN HOUSE OF COMMONS ON NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION MARCH 23. TRIP WAS TO COMMENCE APRIL 5 AND TERMINATE APRIL 19, TO INCLUDE BRIEF VISITS IN HONG KONG AND TOKYO AS WELL AS PEKING.
- 2. PRESUMABLY IF CONSERVATIVE NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION FAILS, TRIP WILL STILL BE ON. IF GOVERNMENT LOSES, HOWEVER, IT PROBABLE THAT TRIP WILL BE CANCELLED IN ORDER FOR MRS. THATCHER TO PARTICIPATE IN CAMPAIGNING FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS; TWO MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED DATES FOR ELECTION ARE APRIL 28 AND MAY 5.
- 3. MRS. THATCHER TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY PARLIAMENTARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AIDE JOHN STANLEY AND FRONT-BENCH SPOKESMAN ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MP DOUGLAS HURD. HURD. WHO WAS FORMERLY IN BRITISH DIPLOMATIC SERVICE. HAS VISITED CHINA BEFORE AND ACCOMPANIED FORMER LEADER HEATH ON ONE OF HIS TRIPS.

**SPIERS** 

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: THATCHER CHINA TRIP IN THE BALANCE TAGS: PINT, PFOR, UK, CH, (THATCHER, MARGARET)

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